

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 11 (cancelled)

Claim 12 (currently amended) A process for growing ~~proliferating~~ cells, comprising the steps of:

- i) providing rat acinar cells from the AR42J cell line; isolating perivitelline fluid from a fertilized egg of a horseshoe crab; and
- ii) growing the cells in the presence of ~~the isolated~~ perivitelline fluid from a fertilized egg of a horseshoe crab to cause proliferation or differentiation of the cells.

Claims 13 and 14 (cancelled)

Claim 15 (currently amended) The process as claimed in claim 12 ~~14~~, wherein the cells are grown in Dulbecco's modified minimum essential medium supplemented with 10% fetal calf serum ~~FCS~~ (FCS).

Claim 16 (previously presented) The process as claimed in claim 12, further comprising measuring an increase in population of the cells.

Claim 17 (previously presented) The process as claimed in claim 12, wherein the horseshoe crab is an Indian horseshoe crab.